

HISTORICAL FACTSHEET No 27

Royal Visits to the Hospital 1911 - 2008

Date	Name of Visitor and Royal Status	Reason for Visit	Sources of Information
1911 5 August	Princess Alexander of Teck Born Princess Alice, daughter of youngest son of Queen Victoria married Prince Alexander of Teck, brother of Queen Mary, consort of King George V 1917 onwards titled Countess of Athlone	"Surprise visit" to the Baschurch Home.	Mentioned in 1911 annual report
1921 5 August	Marchioness of Cambridge Born Lady Margaret Grosvenor, daughter of the First Duke of Westminster married Prince Adolphus of Teck, later titled Marquess of Cambridge, brother of Queen Mary, consort of King George V	Official opening of the Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital.	Mentioned in 1921 annual report
1926 17 December	Ex-King Manuel of Portugal Friend of Sir Robert Jones, who worked with him on the rehabilitation of disabled ex-servicemen during the first World War	Opening of the new Babies Ward, later known as Wheatley Ward.	Mentioned in 1926 annual report Photograph
1932 22 January	Prince George Later became Duke of Kent; Son of King George V Subsequently became first Hospital Patron	Laying of the foundation stone for the hospital reconstruction scheme. Also visited the Derwen Training College.	Official invitation Official programme Orthopaedic Illustrated 1967 No 8, p 5 (photograph)

1933 7 April	The Princess Royal Princess Mary, daughter of King George V	Visit at own request as part of official visit to Shropshire.	Photographs and press cuttings pasted into official programme of Prince George's 1932 visit by patient Susan Mathilda Griffiths. Orthopaedic Illustrated 1981 No 20, p 13 (photograph)
1943 20 September	The Duchess of Kent Princess Marina, widow of the Duke of Kent, who died in 1942 First visit as Hospital Patron	Tour of the hospital.	Press cuttings Photographs
1951 14 July	Countess Edwina Mountbatten of Burma Wife of Earl Louis Mountbatten of Burma, great-grandson of Queen Victoria, and uncle to Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh	Tour of the hospital while in Oswestry on an official visit as Superintendent-in-Chief of the Saint John Ambulance Brigade	Photograph provided by Diane Todd, nursing/physiotherapy student 1946-1952
1952 11 June	The Duchess of Kent (Marina)	Opening of wards and departments rebuilt after the fire of 1948. Also laying of foundation stone for disabled workers' bungalows at Derwen College.	Official programme Official programme
1957 29 May	The Duchess of Kent (Marina)	Opening of X-ray and Medical Records departments.	Official programme
1962 25 October	The Duchess of Kent (Marina)	Opening of Ercall Ward; nurses'/physiotherapists' prizegiving; laying of foundation stone for new research block	Official programme Orthopaedic Illustrated 1963 No 3, p 6-7, 10
1967 14 July	The Duchess of Kent (Marina) Last visit as Patron before her death in 1968	Opening of new student residential blocks; visits to Sheldon, Oswald, Ercall and Wrekin Wards, Medical Staff Residence, and Swimming Pool.	Official invitation Official programme Orthopaedic Illustrated 1967 No 8, p 3, 5, 6-7
1970 12 March	The Duchess of Kent (Katharine) Wife of Prince Edward, Duke of Kent, son of Princess Marina, and cousin to Queen Elizabeth II First visit as Patron	Visits to Montgomery, Wrekin and Wheatley Wards, Hospital Chapel, and Medical Staff Residence.	Official invitation Official programme Orthopaedic Illustrated 1971 No 11, 2, 3, 6-7

1971 1 October	The Duchess of Kent (Katharine)	Opening of the Institute of Orthopaedics; visits to Ercall Ward, Nurses' Home and the Charles Salt Research Centre.	Official programme Orthopaedic Illustrated 1971 No 12 front cover, p 2-5 Programme for whole visit to Shropshire Correspondence & notes prior to visit
1975 3 June	The Duchess of Kent (Katharine)	Opening of new Rehabilitation Unit; visits to Ercall and Kenyon Wards.	Official programme Orthopaedic Illustrated 1975 No 15 front cover, p 10-13 Correspondence and notes prior to visit
1980 28 April	The Duchess of Kent (Katharine)	Visits to Medical Records Department and the Midlands Centre for Spinal Injuries.	Orthopaedic Illustrated 1981 No 20, p 2
1985 19 March	The Duchess of Kent (Katharine)	Visit to the Children's Unit	Official programme for whole of visit to Shropshire Orthopaedic Illustrated 1986 No 22 front cover, p 12-13
1987 4 November	The Duchess of Kent (Katharine)	Opening of the Centre for Spinal Studies	Official programme Orthopaedic Illustrated 1991 No 23, p 21
1991 11 April	The Duchess of Kent (Katharine)	Visit to the Orthotic Research and Locomotor Assessment Unit	Official programme
1994 16 May	The Duchess of Kent (Katharine)	Laying of the foundation stone for the Leopold Muller Arthritis Research Centre.	Talkback 1994 No 30, p 1
1997 17 April	The Duchess of Kent (Katharine)	Opening of the Leopold Muller Arthritis Research Centre.	Institute of Orthopaedics annual report 1997-8, p 3-5
2000 15 March	The Princess Royal Princess Anne, daughter of Queen Elizabeth II	Visit as Patron of the Spinal Injuries Association to celebrate the 25 th anniversary of the SIA.	Official invitation Trust Brief 2000 Vol 3 No 3 p 1; Vol 3 No 4, p 1
2007 14 June	The Duke of Gloucester Prince Richard, cousin to Queen Elizabeth II	Laying of the foundation stone of the TORCH building; visit to the children's outpatient department , Alice Ward and the Orthotic Research and Locomotor Assessment Unit..	Communic@te 2007 July, p 1, 3